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Talking Points for Associate Deputy Director
4 November 1985

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1984 = 60
1985 = 120

Israel over the past year has been confronted with significantly increased terrorist attacks, many launched by local residents of the West Bank and others carried out by PLO and radical Shia terrorists.

In addition guerrilla
--Many ~~of the~~ attacks are launched against the Israeli security zone in southern Lebanon. ~~and never reach Israeli territory.~~

1984 = 19
1985 = 65

--Since the beginning of 1985, there has been an increase in terrorism on the West Bank. Although some of these acts are carried out spontaneously by West Bank residents, the Israelis believe that most of the violence is directed by Fatah officials based in Jordan.

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Israel's position on countering terrorism: Israel will punish perpetrators of anti-Israeli terrorism when and where it chooses. To this end, Israel employs wideranging sea, land, and air forces to strike PLO terrorist bases, usually in Lebanon. It has not yet struck at suspected terrorist bases in Jordan for fear of damaging the Peace Process.

--The navy conducts daily coastal patrols to prevent entry of terrorists into southern Lebanon or Israel by sea, but occasionally shells suspected terrorist bases or positions near the coast.

--The army conducts sweeps and raids in or directly north of the Israeli security zone in southern Lebanon to root out suspected terrorists or to punish villagers for cooperating with terrorists.

--The air force engages in spectacular and damaging retaliatory strikes on PLO terrorist bases, particularly in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

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To date, Israel has conducted at least 12 airstrikes against PLO targets in Lebanon in 1985.

--The air force's most frequent target in recent months has been Ahmad Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, a radical PLO faction with close ties to Syria.

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